

Amendments to the Claims

1. (Canceled)

2. (Canceled)

3. (Canceled)

4. (Currently amended) A re-locatable operator station assembly for use in operating a machine, comprising:

a first linkage assembly comprising first and second links configured to be rotateably coupled to [[the]] a machine via first and second pivots;

a first intermediate bracket comprising third, fourth, fifth and sixth pivots and rotateably coupled to [[the]] said first linkage assembly via [[the]] said third and fourth pivots;

a second linkage assembly comprising third and fourth links and coupled to [[the]] said first intermediate bracket via [[the]] said fifth and sixth pivots; and

an operator station comprising a housing and a man-machine interface and coupled to [[the]] said second linkage assembly via seventh and eighth pivots.

5. (Currently amended) A re-locatable operator station assembly according to claim [[3]] 4, wherein [[the]] said operator station is coupled to [[the]] said second linkage assembly by a second bracket, [[the]] said second bracket comprising pivots rotateably coupled to [[the]] said third and fourth links.

6. (Currently amended) A re-locatable operator station assembly according to claim 4, further comprising a third linkage assembly comprising fifth and sixth links and a third bracket comprising seventh, eighth, ninth and tenth pivots, wherein [[the]] said first and second links of [[the]] said first linkage assembly are rotateably coupled to [[the]] said third bracket by [[the]] said seventh and eighth pivots respectively, [[the]] said fifth and sixth links of [[the]] said third linkage assembly are rotateably coupled to [[the]] said third bracket by [[the]] said ninth and tenth pivots respectively, and [[the]] said ninth and tenth links are configured to be rotateably coupled to [[the]] said machine.

7. (Currently amended) A re-locatable operator station assembly according to claim [[3]] 4, wherein:

[[the]] said first and second pivots are separated by a distance that is approximately equal to a distance separating [[the]] said third and fourth pivots;

[[the]] said fifth and sixth pivots are separated by a distance that is approximately equal to a distance separating [[the]] said seventh and eighth pivots,

[[the]] said first and second links are of approximately equal lengths, and

[[the]] said third and fourth links are of approximately equal lengths.

8. (Currently amended) A re-locatable operator station assembly according to claim [[3]] 4, wherein [[the]] said first linkage assembly is oriented substantially horizontally and [[the]] said fifth and sixth pivots are oriented such that

[[the]] said second linkage assembly may be positioned in a non-horizontal orientation when rotated about [[the]] said fifth and sixth pivots.

9. (Currently amended) A re-locatable operator station assembly according to claim [[3]] 4, wherein [[the]] said operator station comprises an electrical cable capable of electronically coupling [[the]] said operator station to [[the]] said machine.

10. (Currently amended) A re-locatable operator station assembly according to claim [[3]] 4, wherein [[the]] said operator station comprises a wireless link capable of passing information between [[the]] said operator station and [[the]] said machine.

11. (Currently amended) A re-locatable operator station assembly according to claim 5, further comprising a seventh link coupled between [[the]] said third and fourth links so as to prevent rotation of [[the]] said second linkage assembly with respect to [[the]] said first bracket, [[the]] said seventh link comprising a first member and a second member coupled together so as to permit ~~that the~~ said seventh link to have a variable length, and a locking mechanism capable of locking the positions of [[the]] said first and second members so as to fix the length of [[the]] said seventh link.

12. (Currently amended) A re-locatable operator station assembly according to claim 5, further comprising a fourth bracket comprising [[the]] said first and second pivot, [[the]]

said fourth bracket being capable of coupling [[the]] said third linkage assembly to [[the]] said machine.

13. (Currently amended) A re-locatable operator station assembly according to claim [[3]] 4, wherein [[the]] said pivots further comprise a friction element capable of resisting rotation when subjected to a rotational force below a threshold and permitting rotation when subjected to a rotational force at or above a threshold.

14. (Currently amended) A machine, comprising:

a chassis;

a wheel rotateably mounted to said chassis, [[the]] said wheel being selected from the group of pneumatic, solid rubber, solid urethane, and omni directional;

mission hardware coupled to [[the]] said chassis, [[the]] said mission hardware being selected from the group of lifting machinery, scissors lift, aerial work platform, aircraft engine and handling machinery, and long load support; and

a re-locatable operator station assembly for use in operating [[the vehicle]] said machine, comprising:

a first linkage assembly comprising first and second links configured to be rotateably coupled to [[the vehicle]] said machine via first and second pivots;

a first intermediate bracket comprising third, fourth, fifth and sixth pivots and rotateably coupled to [[the]] said first linkage assembly via [[the]] said third and fourth pivot;

a second linkage assembly comprising third and fourth links and coupled to [[the]] said first intermediate bracket via [[the]] said fifth and sixth pivots; and

an operator station comprising a housing and a man-machine interface and coupled to [[the]] said second linkage assembly via seventh and eighth pivots.

15. (Currently amended) A re-locatable operator station assembly according to claim [[3]] 4, wherein [[the]] said operator station is coupled to [[the]] said second linkage assembly by a second bracket, [[the]] said second bracket comprising [[the]] said fifth and sixth pivots rotateably coupled to [[the]] said third and fourth links, respectively.

16. (Currently amended) A re-locatable operator station assembly according to claim 4, further comprising a third linkage assembly comprising fifth and sixth links and a third bracket comprising seventh, eighth, ninth and tenth pivots, wherein [[the]] said first and second links of [[the]] said first linkage assembly are rotateably coupled to [[the]] said third bracket by [[the]] said seventh and eighth pivots respectively, [[the]] said fifth and sixth links of [[the]] said third linkage assembly are rotateably coupled to [[the]] said third bracket by [[the]] said ninth and tenth pivots respectively, and [[the]] said ninth and tenth links are configured to be rotateably coupled to [[the]] said machine.

17. (Currently amended) A re-locatable operator station assembly according to claim [[3]] 4, wherein:

[[the]] said first and second pivots are separated by a distance that is approximately equal to a distance separating [[the]] said third and fourth pivots;

[[the]] said fifth and sixth pivots are separated by a distance that is approximately equal to a distance separating [[the]] said seventh and eighth pivots,

[[the]] said first and second links are of approximately equal lengths, and

[[the]] said third and fourth links are of approximately equal lengths.

18. (Currently amended) A re-locatable operator station assembly according to claim [[3]] 4, wherein [[the]] said first linkage assembly is oriented substantially horizontally and [[the]] said fifth and sixth pivots are oriented such that [[the]] said second linkage assembly may be positioned in a non-horizontal orientation when rotated about [[the]] said fifth and sixth pivots.

19. (Currently amended) A re-locatable operator station assembly according to claim [[3]] 4, wherein [[the]] said operator station comprises an electrical cable capable of electronically coupling [[the]] said operator station to [[the]] said machine.

20. (Currently amended) A re-locatable operator station assembly according to claim [[3]] 4, wherein [[the]] said operator station comprises a wireless link capable of passing information between [[the]] said operator station and [[the]] said machine.

21. (Currently amended) A re-locatable operator station assembly according to claim 5, further comprising a seventh link

coupled between [[the]] said third and fourth links so as to prevent rotation of [[the]] said second linkage assembly with respect to [[the]] said first bracket, [[the]] said seventh link comprising a first member and a second member coupled together so as to permit ~~that the~~ said seventh link to have a variable length, and a locking mechanism capable of locking the positions of [[the]] said first and second members so as to fix the length of [[the]] said seventh link.

22. (Currently amended) A re-locatable operator station assembly according to claim 5, further comprising a fourth bracket comprising [[the]] said first and second pivot, [[the]] said fourth bracket being capable of coupling [[the]] said third linkage assembly to [[the]] said machine.

23. (Currently amended) A re-locatable operator station assembly according to claim [[3]] 4, wherein [[the]] said pivots further comprise a friction element capable of resisting rotation when subjected to a rotational force below a threshold and permitting rotation when subjected to a rotational force at or above a threshold.

24. (Canceled)

25. (Currently amended) A re-locatable operator station assembly according to claim 23, further comprising a means for rotating [[the]] said operator control station to maintain an ergonomically desirable orientation to an operator depending upon a vertical position of [[the]] said operator control station.

26. (Canceled)